

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

April 27, 2005
MAG Office, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa, Chair	Mayor Frank Vacaneri, Guadalupe
Mayor Woody Thomas, Litchfield Park, Vice Chair	Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County
# Vice Mayor R. E. Eck for Mayor	* Mayor Ron Clarke, Paradise Valley
Douglas Coleman, Apache Junction	Vice Mayor Pat Dennis for Mayor John
Councilmember Marie Lopez-Rogers for	Keegan, Peoria
Mayor Ron Drake, Avondale	Vice Mayor Michael Johnson for Mayor
* Mayor Dusty Hull, Buckeye	Phil Gordon, Phoenix
Mayor Edward Morgan, Carefree	Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek
* Mayor Vincent Francia, Cave Creek	* President Joni Ramos, Salt River
Mayor Boyd Dunn, Chandler	Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Mayor Fred Waterman, El Mirage	* Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale
* President Raphael Bear, Fort McDowell	Mayor Joan Shafer, Surprise
Yavapai Nation	* Mayor Hugh Hallman, Tempe
Mayor Wally Nichols, Fountain Hills	* Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson
* Mayor Chris Riggs, Gila Bend	* Mayor Ron Badowski, Wickenburg
* Governor Richard Narcia, Gila River Indian	Mayor Bryan Hackbarth, Youngtown
Community	Rusty Gant, ADOT
Mayor Steven Berman, Gilbert	Joe Lane, ADOT
* Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale	F. Rockne Arnett, Citizens Transportation
Mayor James M. Cavanaugh, Goodyear	Oversight Committee

* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

Attended by telephone conference call.

+ Attended by videoconference call.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Regional Council was called to order by Regional Council Chair Keno Hawker at 5:05 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chair Hawker stated that the RPTA has provided transit tickets for those who used transit to come to the meeting and garage parking validation was available from staff. He introduced proxies for the meeting: Vice Mayor R. E. Eck for Mayor Douglas Coleman, Apache Junction; Councilmember Marie Lopez-Rogers for Mayor Ron Drake, Avondale; Vice Mayor Pat Dennis for Mayor John Keegan, Peoria; and Vice Mayor Michael Johnson for Mayor Phil Gordon, Phoenix. Chair Hawker stated that Vice Mayor Eck was participating via videoconference call. He noted materials that were at each place: the summary transmittal for agenda item #5F was updated to reflect comments received from the City of Scottsdale; the summary transmittals for agenda items #5B, #5C, #6B, and #6C were updated to reflect the Transportation Policy Committee's recommendations for approval on all four items; the bill summary chart for agenda item #10 was revised to reflect the status of legislation to-date; and the memorandum announcing the nominating committee for agenda item #11.

3. Call to the Audience

Chair Hawker noted that according to MAG's public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out public comment cards. The opportunity for public comment is provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit. Those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.

Chair Hawker recognized public comment from William "Blue" Crowley, who said that he was at the last Regional Council meeting and saw the presentation on growth. Mr. Crowley said that he found a lot to his liking in the presentation. He stated that he would like to see all five Maricopa County Indian Communities at the table. Mr. Crowley stated that at the public hearing, RPTA and MAG did not have quorums. He asked how could the public be expected to come and not come yourself? Mr. Crowley stated that there was insufficient time allowed to comment on the nine consent agenda items, five of which would require three minutes each. He commented on agenda item #5I, the Specifications and Details, that bicycle and pedestrian facilities should be included when streets are built the first time. Chair Hawker thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

4. Executive Director's Report

Dennis Smith reported on Transportation Reauthorization. He said that the sixth extension expires May 31, 2005, and the Senate is now debating the full bill. Mr. Smith advised that it seems uncertain that there will be a reauthorization bill prior to the deadline.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG will assist Pinal County with their socioeconomic information. He noted that the contract between Central Arizona Association of Governments and the MAG Information Center is for \$175,400.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG, along with Valley Metro and Valley Metro Rail, hosted informational booths at two events on April 13, 2005 at the Phoenix Civic Plaza: The Valley Forward Livability Summit and the Latino Institute Annual Conference. Mr. Smith stated that staff also hosted an information booth at Sunday on Central on March 21, 2005.

Mr. Smith stated that staff gave the presentation on growth and the declining HURF funds to Associated General Contractors. He said that the growth issue and reductions in HURF will be discussed at the League of Arizona Cities and Towns Conference in Mesa.

Mr. Smith introduced a new MAG employee, Brande Mead, who rejoined the MAG staff as Human Services Planner I in the Human Services Division.

Mr. Smith announced that April 12 was MAG's 38th birthday. On that date in 1967, the Regional Council held its first meeting. Chair Hawker thanked Mr. Smith for his report. No questions from the Council were noted.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Hawker stated that public comment is provided for consent items. Each speaker is provided with a total of three minutes to comment on the consent agenda. After hearing public comments, any member of the committee can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. He stated that agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, #5H, and #5I were on the consent agenda. Chair Hawker asked the Council if there were any questions on consent agenda items. No comments were noted.

Chairman Hawker recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who stated that a three minute period for public comment was insufficient time to comment on all consent agenda items. He said that his comments were the same for agenda items #5G and #5H as were noted on the summary transmittals. For agenda item #5I, he wanted MAG to do what the County did, which is include accommodations for bicycle, bus and pedestrian when roadways are built or upgraded, so the roadways will not have to be torn up again. Mr. Crowley stated that these projects are not being done right and are not in tune with TEA-21. He said that he would like to comment on the Phoenix project, agenda item #5B, but he did not have enough time. Mr. Crowley stated that he needed MAG to be gestalt and not parochial. He stated that if there is no bus service to outlying areas such as Aguila, Agua Caliente, Queen Creek, etc., you are not getting the job done. Mr. Crowley stated that for agenda item #5G, he appreciated the efforts and supported doing even more. Chairman Hawker thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

Supervisor Stapley moved to approve consent agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, #5H, and #5I. Mayor Hackbarth seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5A. Approval of the March 23, 2005 Meeting Minutes

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the March 23, 2005 meeting minutes.

5B. Amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to Add a Phoenix Federally Funded High Priority Transportation Project for FY 2005

The Regional Council, by consent, approved an amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG TIP to add the Federally funded, Phoenix Rio Salado Parkway design project. The City of Phoenix has been notified that it has been awarded \$1,653,333 in Federal High Priority Transportation funds to start the design of the Rio Salado Parkway corridor, from 7th Street to the South Mountain Freeway. This notification was made as part of a special appropriation that occurred during the recent Transportation Appropriations Bill. In order for the project to proceed, the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) needs to be amended to include this new project. As the project involves only design at this stage, the project is regarded as exempt for air quality conformity purposes. The Transportation Review Committee, the Management Committee, and the Transportation Policy Committee recommended approval of the amendment.

5C. Federal Fiscal Year 2005 MAG Federal Funds Interim Closeout and Amendment/Adjustments to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and FY 2005 and FY 2006 Unified Planning Work Programs and Annual Budgets

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the interim closeout of Federal FY 2005, as shown in the attached Table One and approved amending/adjusting the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and the FY 2005 and FY 2006 Unified Planning Work Programs and Annual Budgets to allow the projects to proceed. In this phase of the closeout process, approximately \$17.9 million is available for the interim closeout, plus a possible \$1.5 million in redistributed Obligation Authority. On March 24, 2005, the MAG Transportation Review Committee recommended allowing 15 projects, totaling \$12.9 million, to defer from Federal Fiscal Year 2005 to later years. Projects on Table One: (1) CHN03-107R-Chandler: Ryan Rd: Arizona Ave to McQueen Rd; Pave dirt road, CMAQ, \$162,000; (2) GBD05-202-Gila Bend: Martin Ave: Old Main St to Stout St; Pedestrian improvements, STP-MAG, \$188,600; (3) GLB04-205-Gilbert: Gilbert Rd: US-60 to Guadalupe Rd; and US-60: Dobson Rd to Gilbert Rd; ITS project along Gilbert Rd and US-60, CMAQ, \$400,660; (4) GLB05-107R-Gilbert: Eastern Canal: Baseline Rd to Guadalupe Rd (Santan Vista Trail phase I); Multi-use path, CMAQ, \$549,769; (5) GDL04-201-Guadalupe: 8413 S Avenida Del Yaqui; Emergency signal, STP-MAG, \$47,000; (6) GDL05-202-Guadalupe: Guadalupe Rd: Highline Canal to Calle Bella Vista; Add sidewalks, bus stops and cross walks, CMAQ, \$500,000; (7) LPK05-101-Litchfield Park: Litchfield Rd Bypass at Wigwam Boulevard; Construct bicycle underpass, CMAQ, \$886,420; (8) MMA05-214-Maricopa County: PM-10 roads, various locations; Paving dirt roads (2005), CMAQ, \$1,032,400; (9) MES04-125C-Mesa: Country Club Dr: 8th Ave to Baseline Rd (including US-60 TI); Install real-time adaptive signal system, CMAQ, \$788,810; (10) PEO03-101-Peoria: Carefree Hwy: Lake Pleasant to Beardsley Canal; Pave dirt road, CMAQ, \$845,000; (11) PHX04-110-Phoenix: Grand Canal at I-17; Construct bicycle grade separation structure, CMAQ, \$3,300,500; (12) SCT04-119C-Scottsdale: Scottsdale Rd: Pima Fwy to Indian School Rd; Construct smart corridor traffic control system, CMAQ, \$1,822,800; (13) SCT04-113R-Scottsdale: Hayden Rd at Via de Ventura intersection; Add north and southbound left turn lanes for dual lefts; CMAQ, \$1,600,000; (14) TMP04-102-Tempe: Curry Rd: Scottsdale Rd to McClintock Dr; Design and construct pedestrian facilities, CMAQ, \$438,200; (15) TMP05-105-Tempe: University Dr: Perry Lane to Price Rd; Design and construct pedestrian facilities, CMAQ, \$400,000. Total of MAG Federal Funds Requested for Deferral: \$12,962,159. This is in

addition to \$4.6 million in uncommitted funds available since the initial closeout and \$350,000 in reimbursed funds received so far this year. Members were requested to submit to MAG staff any projects that they wish to compete for the funds available by the deadline of Friday, April 29, 2005. The Management Committee and the Transportation Policy Committee recommended approval.

5D. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The proposed amendment includes a City of Phoenix federal-aid project to start the design of the Rio Salado Parkway from 7th Street to the South Mountain Freeway in FY 2005. The amendment includes a new project that may be categorized as exempt from conformity determinations. Comments on the conformity assessment are requested by April 22, 2005. This item was on the agenda for consultation.

5E. Department of Housing and Urban Development Stuart B. McKinney Continuum of Care Consolidated Application Process for Maricopa County

On December 18, 1999, the Regional Council approved MAG becoming the responsible entity for a year round homeless planning process. This includes the submittal of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Stuart B. McKinney Continuum of Care Consolidated Application for the Maricopa Region. The Continuum of Care application supports permanent and transitional housing services. It is anticipated that the region could receive more than \$19 million for the 2005 application. This year, MAG is expecting to receive up to 60 applications for new and renewal projects. A ranking and review process, administered by Valley of the Sun United Way, is in process. Information on the process is being provided to inform MAG member agencies regarding this funding. This item was on the agenda for information.

5F. Update to the Regional Plan to End Homelessness

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the Update to the Regional Plan to End Homelessness. The Regional Plan to End Homelessness was developed in 2002. Since then, the plan has become a national model and a guiding light for the MAG Continuum of Care. In October 2004, a group of nearly 40 stakeholders, including elected officials, service providers, municipal staff and the private sector gathered to assess progress that has been made on the plan. The outcome of the meetings resulted in the Update to the Regional Plan. The purpose of the update is to provide a benchmark for accomplishments and a focus for what remains to be done. The Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness and the Management Committee recommended approval of the Update. Comments received were incorporated into the Update.

5G. Domestic Violence Public Opinion Survey

The Regional Council, by consent, approved a public opinion phone survey on domestic violence to be conducted by MAG and the Morrison Institute at Arizona State University. The MAG Regional Domestic Violence Council, formed in 1999, supports the collection of current statistically reliable and valid public opinion data on the issue of domestic violence in Maricopa County. This information will

assist the Council as they work to prioritize their goals and objectives for the next five years. The Morrison Institute at Arizona State University has offered to partner with MAG to place a public opinion survey in the field beginning in early May 2005 through MetroTRACK. This random phone survey would seek to measure public awareness of domestic violence services currently available in the region, as well as to assess the public's perception of the most pressing domestic violence-related needs. The survey is estimated to cost no more than \$4,000 with the Morrison Institute paying for half that amount. The Management Committee and the Executive Committee recommended approval of conducting the survey.

5H. Preparations for Conducting the 2005 Census Survey

MAG has been working on the Census Survey questionnaire, the letter from the agency's Regional Council member to accompany the questionnaire, list of group quarters, outreach efforts and recruitment. Address Lists--MAG and the Census Bureau have been researching methods to reduce a potential cost increase. One method to reduce costs is for member agencies to provide the Census Bureau with address lists. To date, thirteen member agencies have indicated that they will be able to provide an address file and twelve member agencies have indicated that they will not. MAG is continuing to collaborate with member agencies to obtain address lists. For the address lists that have been submitted, MAG and the Census Bureau are performing quality assurance and quality control on the lists. Cognitive Testing--The purpose of conducting cognitive testing is to ensure the 2005 Census Survey questionnaire will be understood and filled out accurately. A report detailing the results of cognitive testing of the questionnaire and the letter accompanying the questionnaire was reviewed and forwarded to the Census Bureau. The Census Bureau agreed with all substantial recommendations in the cognitive testing report. 2005 National Census Test--The 2005 National Census Test (NCT) is a survey of a test questionnaire for the 2010 Census. The 2005 NCT will be conducted in a similar manner and at the same time as the MAG 2005 Census Survey. Thirteen member agencies sent letters to the Census Bureau expressing concern about the timing of the 2005 NCT, possible confusion that Maricopa County residents could face, negative effect on response rates and quality of the census survey. The Census Bureau sent a response to these letters stating that they are unable to delay the 2005 NCT because the schedule for this test is driven by other critical surveys in their preparation for the 2010 Census and they are unable to exempt Maricopa County from the 2005 NCT as it would reduce the quality of their test results, particularly with respect to the Hispanic population. The Census Bureau stated that it is highly unlikely that the same household will receive both surveys. Outreach Efforts--The City of Phoenix has formed five subcommittees to target publicity of the census to specific audiences. These subcommittees are Media, Business, Minority Outreach, Neighborhoods/Schools, and Communities of Faith. All subcommittees have met a couple of times and work on the media campaign is underway. The Media subcommittee has a diverse composition of staff from local mainstream and ethnic television, radio and print media. The Media subcommittee selected a slogan for helping to brand the Census Survey outreach efforts. The slogan is "Count me in!" or "¡Cuenta Conmigo!" The subcommittee also selected both black and white and color logos which can be seen at www.census2005.com. The subcommittee received commitments from Bashas' and Ranch Markets to print the census slogan and logo on the grocery bags. The subcommittee is also working on a trifold brochure. The subcommittee received commitments for weekly articles in Prensa Hispana and La Voz, the Valley's major Spanish language newspapers. They are also working with Aguilas taxis to promote the Survey, and with major television and radio stations about partnering opportunities. The subcommittee is also working with local theaters

to develop cinema slide public service announcements about the survey. The Media subcommittee will work in concert with the MAG Census Survey Outreach Group to publicize the census and inform the public about the importance of participating in the Survey. The outreach group will identify best practices and take materials from the Phoenix subcommittees and adapt them for individual communities. The Census Survey Outreach Group is made up of public information officers and other designated communication representatives from each city or town. The group is organizing outreach efforts and has created a timeline and calendar of events. Recruitment--To date, the Census Bureau has interviewed 4,200 workers for the 2005 Census Survey. The Bureau is currently seeking to interview another 900 workers to perform the address listing operation in May 2005. Selection will be made in mid-April. Pay will start at \$11.50 per hour plus mileage reimbursement. The jobs are part-time and have flexible hours. The recruitment phone number is (602) 256-3225. Although the Census Bureau has run press releases and ads in the local media, member agencies are being asked to assist in publicizing the recruitment of census workers through their established networks. This item was on the agenda for information.

5I. Proposed 2005 Revisions to MAG Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction

The MAG Standard Specifications and Details Committee has completed its review of proposed 2005 revisions to the MAG Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction and these revisions are currently being reviewed by MAG Member Agency Public Works Directors and/or Engineers. It is anticipated that the annual update packet will be available for purchase in early May 2005. This item was on the agenda for information.

6A. FY 2005 MAG Mid-Phase Public Input Opportunity

Jason Stephens gave a presentation on MAG's adopted public involvement process. He said that members of the public are provided the opportunity to provide input on transportation plans and programs during four phases: Early Phase, Mid-Phase, Final Phase and Continuous Involvement. Mr. Stephens stated that the Mid-Phase Public Input Opportunity was conducted from the end of February through April 1, 2005 and provided residents with the opportunity to input into plans and programs after preliminary development of the new TIP, but before finalization. Input opportunities included committee meetings and several special events, such as the Grand Avenue Kickoff, the Transportation Fair at Central Station, and the Joint Transportation Open House and Public Hearing. Mr. Stephens noted that the special events are usually held in conjunction with the Arizona Department of Transportation, Valley Metro and Valley Metro Rail. He said that comments received during the period were included in the Mid-Phase Input Opportunity Report. Chairman Hawker thanked Mr. Stephens for his presentation.

Chairman Hawker recognized public comment from Steve Dreiseszun, representing the F. Q. Story Historic District in Central Phoenix. Mr. Dreiseszun stated that he was at the Regional Council meeting to express that his neighborhood has suffered greatly from the impacts of I-10. He stated that unless right-of-way is planned, the same issues that have impacted the F. Q. Story District will recur in other neighborhoods. Mr. Dreiseszun stated that mitigation of noise could be accomplished by rubberized asphalt, creating barriers, such as sound walls, or at the receiver's end, by improving windows and insulation. He also noted that another control is minimizing heavy truck traffic, which could be achieved with the I-10 Reliever. Mr. Dreiseszun stated that the I-10 Reliever would be a tremendous

opportunity for a positive influence on his neighborhood. Chairman Hawker thanked Mr. Dreiseszun for his comments.

Chairman Hawker recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who requested that a tunnel, not a bridge, be constructed at I-17 and the Grand Canal over the freeway. He said that it will be difficult to ride a bike over the freeway when it is reconstructed as a two-level structure. Mr. Crowley stated that a tunnel was constructed under the freeway at the Metrocenter area, where white people live, but areas where people of color live do not get these enhancements. Mr. Crowley stated that he also wanted the facility at Deck Park Tunnel on I-10 completed. He stated that federal guidelines say that existing projects need to be completed before new ones are started. Mr. Crowley noted that the facility is not being done because Phoenix will not put any money into it. He added that this is an area of great traffic congestion and should be fixed. Why have the site used up by a facility if it is not going to be used? Chairman Hawker thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

6B. Approval of the Draft FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for an Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Paul Ward addressed the Council on the Draft FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He said that the TIP includes all Title 23 Federally funded projects and all regionally significant projects. Mr. Ward stated that a TIP is required every two years; however, MAG generally drafts a TIP every year. He advised that sufficient detail on the projects is required to permit air quality analysis in accordance with the U.S. conformity requirements. Mr. Ward then described the TIP process, with approval by the Regional Council anticipated in July. He stated that the 1,100 projects in the TIP include more than 500 street, 250 transit, 140 freeway, and 100 bicycle and pedestrian projects and represent more than \$5.65 billion. Mr. Ward then went on to discuss the sources and allocation of funds. He referred to the project changes recommended by the Management Committee, shown on Errata Sheet 06-2. He added that project changes submitted by member agencies since the Management Committee were shown on Errata Sheet 06-3. Chairman Hawker thanked Mr. Ward for his presentation. No comments from the Council were noted.

Vice Chairman Thomas moved to approve the Draft FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for an air quality conformity analysis. Mayor Hackbarth seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

6C. Approval of the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan - 2005 Update for an Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Roger Herzog stated that the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments require that transportation plans and programs be in conformance with applicable air quality plans. To comply with this requirement, it is necessary to conduct a conformity analysis on an update to the MAG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). He stated that the 2005 Update includes the plan modifications approved by the Regional Council for air quality conformity analysis on March 23, 2005 and proposed plan modifications for air quality conformity analysis distributed for agency review on February 25, 2005. Mr. Herzog advised that these changes are subject to the interim advancement policy that was approved in February 2005. Mr. Herzog added that the changes will modify the MAG Regional Transportation Plan that was adopted

by the MAG Regional Council on November 25, 2003. He also noted that the Management Committee and the Transportation Policy Committee had recommended the 2005 Update for a conformity analysis at their meetings in April. Mr. Herzog stated that final approval of the RTP 2005 Update by the Regional Council after the conformity analysis is anticipated in July. Chairman Hawker thanked Mr. Herzog for his report. No comments from the Council were noted.

Mayor Dunn moved to approve the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan - 2005 Update for an air quality conformity analysis. Mayor Waterman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

7. Interim Draft of the Arterial Life Cycle Program Policies and Procedures

Eric Anderson updated members on the draft policies and procedures being discussed by the Transportation Policy Committee. Mr. Anderson stated that two overall goals were defined in developing the policies: to maintain the fiscal balance of the arterial street program by ensuring that project costs do not exceed available revenues; and to deliver all of the Proposition 400 projects in an efficient and cost effective manner.

Mr. Anderson stated that the TPC discussed four draft policies: the reimbursement amount for advanced projects; program adjustments for revenue shortfalls; program adjustments for surplus program funds; and the use of surplus project funds. Mr. Anderson stated that the four policy issues would be incorporated into the draft policies and procedures and the document would be reorganized and simplified. Mr. Anderson stated that a workshop will be held in mid-May for member agency staff to review the simplified document. He noted that the TPC will further discuss the policies and procedures with partial adoption in May and final adoption anticipated in June.

Chairman Hawker thanked Mr. Anderson for his update. He asked for clarification if the policies and procedures would require action by the Regional Council. Mr. Anderson replied that approval by the Regional Council as the governing body is anticipated. Chairman Hawker asked if the inflation rate would apply to the surplus project funds used at the end of the program? Mr. Anderson replied that the inflation rate would apply; those projects would be treated as any other project in the Life Cycle.

Vice Chairman Thomas asked if there would be other policies and processes for freeways and transit? Mr. Anderson replied that ADOT is responsible for the management of freeways. MAG provides oversight and cooperatively develops the TIP with ADOT. He said that RPTA is responsible for the Transit Life Cycle and is currently in the process of developing policies and procedures. Mr. Anderson stated that MAG would like to coordinate the processes among the arterial, freeway, and transit. He remarked that ADOT does not have specific policies and procedures, and it uses some of MAG's approved policies, such as the material change policy and the freeway acceleration policy.

8. Discussion and Update on the Draft FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Becky Kimbrough updated members on the development of the Draft FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. Ms. Kimbrough stated that a meeting of the Intermodal Planning Group to formally review the Work Program took place on April 6. She advised that the comments from the Federal partners were positive and they recommended no changes. Ms. Kimbrough reviewed

changes to the Programs in Brief. She said that it was decided that for the 10-Year Strategic Plan for an Elderly Friendly Regional Transportation System, staff will conduct an inventory of the member agencies to determine the elderly transportation initiatives currently in place. This information will then be brought back to the Management Committee and the Regional Council to determine if the project will proceed. Ms. Kimbrough advised that the project would remain in the budget, and costs would be for staff labor only. She stated that the Arterial Life Cycle Program Database Maintenance project for \$100,000 would be taken out of the new projects recommended for FY 2006 because it was determined it might be more appropriate for implementation in a later year. She stated that the Technical Assistance with Traffic Data Analysis and Reporting project with the Texas Transportation Institute in the amount of \$57,000 was proposed for inclusion in the Work Program. Ms. Kimbrough explained that the project will determine the accuracy of the data being generated from the traffic sensors, further develop analysis techniques for quantifying operational efficiency, and investigate sensor design and maintenance issues. She noted that these changes to the Work Program would reduce the FY 2006 budget by \$43,000, which is about six percent under the FY 2005 budget.

Chairman Hawker asked if the information from the Traffic Data Analysis and Reporting project would assist the performance audit specified in legislation. Mr. Smith replied that it would. He stated that this is an important project because there currently is concern with the base data being used now.

9. MAG County Library District Stakeholders Group

Chairman Hawker recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who expressed support for libraries. He also asked if the truck survey would be used for CANAMEX purposes and air quality. Mr. Crowley stated that citizen input is supposed to be a part of the development of the Work Program.

Tom Remes reported on recent meetings of the MAG County Library District Stakeholders Group that was formed by the Management Committee on March 9, 2005. Mr. Remes stated that the Group has been meeting to examine current library needs and explore other potential partnering activities such as joint purchasing, regional technology sharing, and restructuring of the reciprocal borrowing agreement.

Mr. Remes stated that the Group reached a consensus on two recommendations: The County would purchase a core set of electronic databases that would be available to all libraries in the County and that the Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement would be restructured, including developing a new formula that reflects actual costs, and to have a one-time increase to the existing \$20 rate while the formula was being developed. Mr. Remes noted that the Group also expressed that regular meetings of municipal and County librarians would be helpful to further communication. He said that the Group decided technical and budget staff will meet to discuss the details to implement the two recommendations. Mr. Remes stated that on April 13, 2005, the Management Committee recommended forwarding the Stakeholders' recommendations to the Regional Council, that staff begin meeting within the month to develop an implementation schedule for the recommendations, and that the Stakeholders Group would report back to the Management Committee. He noted that since the Management Committee meeting, a memorandum was received from the County Library District with slight changes to the time frame and rate.

Chairman Hawker asked for clarification of the increase to the rate used in the Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement. Mr. Remes replied that technical staff were going to meet in about two weeks to look at the rate increase. He said that the increase could possibly be in the range of a \$5 increase, which would not be too high an amount to have an adverse impact on the County's budget. Chairman Hawker expressed concern that rate in the requested motion was too open-ended and felt it would be better to name a dollar amount.

Vice Chair Thomas moved to approve the MAG County Library District Stakeholders Group recommendations that the Maricopa County Library District pursue purchasing a core set of electronic databases that would be available to all libraries and that the reciprocal borrowing agreement be restructured by developing a formula that reflects actual costs, and to have a one time rate increase to an amount not to exceed \$28 while the formula is being developed. Mayor Hackbarth seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Legislative Update

Mr. Remes provided an update on legislative issues of interest. He said that HB 2123, the HELP loan bill, was signed into chapter law. He said that HB 2122, a strike-everything bill that changes the RTP performance audit requirements, failed in the Senate on April 14. Mr. Remes added that there was a motion to reconsider the bill on April 18, and the Senate President has yet to name a date. He noted that it seems unlikely that the bill will move forward this year. Mr. Remes stated that HB 2781 is the temporary 10 cents per gallon tax rebate between Memorial Day and Labor Day with a cap of \$20 million. He said that the bill had been assigned to the House Appropriations Committee but has not yet been heard. Mr. Remes noted that it seems unlikely that the bill will move forward. Mr. Remes stated that HB 2499, Municipal Tax Incentives Prohibition, is the same as SB 1201. He said that this bill discourages a municipality from offering tax incentives to businesses. There is a conditional enactment section that states that the legislation is effective on August 1, 2006 unless MAG develops and implements a comprehensive regional plan that eliminates excessive municipal tax incentives and bidding disputes. Mr. Remes noted that it is unlikely that this bill will be moving forward. Chairman Hawker thanked Mr. Remes for his report. No comments from the Council were noted.

Chairman Hawker recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who stated that the bill summary says SB 1322 is no impact to MAG. He added that because the Chair of CTOC is a member of the TPC that developed the Regional Transportation Plan, he thought it would be a conflict for CTOC, who is charged with reviewing projects funded by the half cent sales tax for transportation, to review the Plan. Mr. Crowley commented on municipal tax incentives and urged that cities come together to reach amicable agreements. He said that giving tax incentives to developers is foolish and ignorant. Mr. Crowley stated that developers need to support our infrastructure. Chairman Hawker thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

11. Nominating Committee

Each April, the Chair of the Regional Council appoints a five-member Nominating Committee from the Regional Council. According to the Nominating Process, revised by the Regional Council in April 2002, the Nominating Committee develops a slate of seven candidates. These candidates include a

Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, the Past Chair, and three members-at-large. If the Past Chair is not a current member of the Council, the Nominating Committee nominates an additional at-large member. The past Chair of the Regional Council, if still a current member, serves as Chair of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is required to provide a balanced slate of officers. The slate of nominations is forwarded to all of the Regional Council members at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting in June.

Chairman Hawker announced the appointment of the members of the 2005 Nominating Committee: Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Town of Queen Creek, Chair; Mayor Edward Morgan, Town of Carefree; Mayor Fred Waterman, City of El Mirage; Mayor Elaine Scruggs, City of Glendale; and Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County.

12. Comments from the Council

An opportunity is provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Mayor Thomas expressed his compliments to ADOT for planning for the extension of the Rio Salado to the I-10 Reliever. He commented that this is an integral part of the system.

Mayor Feldman-Kerr encouraged the use of alternative modes of transportation. She said that she and four others rode to the Queen Creek Town Council meeting on horseback.

There being no further business, the Regional Council meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Chair

Secretary